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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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March 26, 2003

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Tim Stepp
Solid Waste Program
Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Dear Tim:

Pursuant to our recent conversation, this letter is to advise you that the EPA Superfund Remedial Program is assuming the lead at the Libby Asbestos Site beginning January 2003. The site was previously managed by our Superfund Emergency Response Program. I will be the Project Manager for the site for the foreseeable future.

The Libby Asbestos Site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in mid 2002. Though the site was listed on the NPL and is now being managed by the Remedial Program, EPA continues to take action using emergency response authority under CERCLA. This will continue until a Record of Decision is published, which is not expected for several years. The Remedial Program also will continue to use many of the same resources for Libby, including the U.S. Department of Transportation Volpe Engineering Center, and CDM, Inc.

I look forward to working with you on the asbestos cell in Lincoln County. I expect to have a contract in place with Lincoln County completed shortly and begin operations soon after that. We will contact you when the contract is complete. If you have any questions of EPA, please call me at (303) 312-6748.

Sincerely,

Jim Christiansen
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Craig French, MTDEQ

